

In the claims:

For the Examiner's convenience all pending claims are presented herein. Please add new claims 19-22. Please amend the claims as follows:

1 ^{Sub C1} 1. (Twice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio
2 processing modules each having one or more tracks and each connected to
3 a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user
4 interface method of centrally controlling each of the one or more tracks of
5 the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising [the
6 steps of]:
7 generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first
8 display portion including [one or more] a plurality of collapsible control
9 boxes [to substantially contemporaneously control a] each corresponding to
10 and controlling one [or more tracks] track of the plurality of audio
11 processing modules; and
12 generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the
13 second display portion including a central control mechanism for
14 [substantial contemporaneously] substantially simultaneously controlling
15 all of the [one or more] tracks of the plurality of audio processing
16 modules.

1 ^{Sub C2} 2. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 further including [the steps of]:
2 selecting one of the plurality of collapsible control boxes [corresponding
3 to one of the tracks];
4 transmitting a control command associated with the selected collapsible
5 control box [one of the control boxes] from the computer system to an

6 audio processing module having the [one of the tracks] corresponding
7 track; and
8 performing a function assigned to the control command by the audio
9 processing module.

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1 3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 further including the [steps of]:
2 selecting a record button of a specific track;
3 transmitting a record command from the computer system to an audio
4 processing module having the specific [tracks] track; and
5 causing the specific track to record an audio sound by the audio processing
6 module.

1 4. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1 further including [the steps of]:
2 selecting the central control mechanism;
3 transmitting a global control command associated with the central control
4 mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing
5 modules; and
6 in each audio processing module, performing a function assigned to the
7 global control command by the audio processing module.

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1 5. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [the step of] generating
2 a second display portion includes a global play command for controlling
3 all of the [one or more] tracks of the audio processing modules.

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1 6. (Once Amended) The method of claim 5 further including [the steps of]:
2 selecting the global play command;

3 transmitting the global play command from the computer system to the
4 plurality of audio processing modules; and
5 in each audio processing module, causing all the tracks to each play an
6 audio sound by the audio processing module.

1 7. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein [the step of] generating
2 a second display portion includes a global stop command for controlling
3 [the] one or more of the tracks of the audio processing modules.

1 8. (Twice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio
2 processing modules each having one or more input/output ("I/O")
3 channels and each connected to a computer system having a processor and
4 a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling each
5 of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing
6 modules, the method comprising [the steps of]:
7 generating a first display portion, the first display portion including one or
8 more collapsible control boxes to [substantial contemporaneously] control
9 a corresponding one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio
10 processing modules;
11 displaying the first display portion by the processor on the display for
12 control by a user;
13 selecting a control command on a specified collapsible control box by the
14 user;

transmitting the control command from the computer system to the audio processing module having the I/O channel corresponding to the specified control box; and
performing a task assigned to the control command by the audio processing module with respect to the I/O channel.

9. (Twice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having one or more input/output ("I/O") channels and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling all of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising [the steps of]:
generating a display portion, the display portion including a central control mechanism to [substantially contemporaneously] control all of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules;
displaying the display portion by the processor on the display for control by a user;
selecting the central control mechanism;
transmitting a global control command associated with the central control mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and
in each audio processing module, causing all the I/O channels to perform a task assigned to the global control command.

1 10. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for controlling a plurality of audio
2 processing modules having one or more tracks in a player/recorder system,
3 each of the plurality of audio processing modules having one or more
4 input/output ("I/O") channels, the apparatus comprising:
5 a processor; and
6 a display including
7 a first display portion produced by the processor, the first display portion
8 including [one or more] a plurality of collapsible control boxes [to
9 substantially contemporaneously control corresponding I/O channels of the
10 plurality of audio processing modules] each corresponding to and
11 controlling one track, wherein the plurality of collapsible control boxes
12 corresponding to the tracks of an audio processing module may be
13 collapsed into a single control box, and
14 a second display portion produced by the processor, the second display
15 portion including a central control mechanism to substantially
16 simultaneously control all of the one or more I/O channels of the plurality
17 of audio processing modules.

1 11. (Once amended) The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a selection
2 device to select one of the collapsible control boxes corresponding to one
3 of the I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules.

1 12. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a
2 keyboard.

1 13. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a
2 mouse.

1 14. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising an I/O device
2 to transmit a control command associated with the one of the control
3 boxes selected by the selection device to an audio processing module
4 having the one of the I/O channels.

B7 1 15. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 14 [further comprising] wherein
2 an audio processing module [to receive] receives the control command and
3 [perform] performs a function assigned to the control command.

1 16. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a selection
2 device to select the central control mechanism.
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1 17. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising an I/O device
2 to transmit a global control command associated with the central control
3 mechanism to the plurality of audio processing modules.

1 sub C6 18. (Once Amended) The apparatus of claim 17 [further comprising a]
2 wherein each of the plurality of audio processing modules[, each of which
3 is to] receive [the] a global control command and perform a function
4 assigned to the control command with respect to all of the I/O channels.

B9 1 19. (New) --The method of Claim 1, wherein the collapsible control boxes
2 corresponding to a plurality of tracks of a first audio processing module of

3 the plurality of processing modules may be collapsed into a single control
4 box.

1 *sub* 20. (New) --In a player/ recorder system having a plurality of embedded boxes
2 (EBXs) each corresponding with a plurality of tracks and each connected
3 to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user
4 interface method of centrally controlling the plurality of tracks of the
5 plurality of EBXs, the method comprising:

6 generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first
7 display portion including one or more collapsible control boxes and one or
8 more EBX control boxes, wherein the one or more collapsible control
9 boxes correspond to and control a single track and each EBX control box
10 of the one or more EBX control boxes corresponds to and controls all of
11 the plurality of tracks associated with its corresponding EBX of the
12 plurality of EBXs; and
13 generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the
14 second display portion including a central control mechanism for
15 simultaneously controlling all of the tracks.

1 21. (New) --The method of claim 20, wherein the collapsible control boxes
2 corresponding to the plurality of tracks of a first EBX may be collapsed
3 into the EBX control box that corresponds to and controls all of the
4 plurality of tracks associated with the first EBX.

1 22. (New) --In a player/ recorder system having a plurality of audio
2 processing modules having one or more tracks each processing module
3 connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a
4 graphical user interface method of centrally controlling the tracks
5 comprising:
6 generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first
7 display portion including a plurality of collapsible control boxes each
8 corresponding to and controlling one track, wherein the plurality of
9 collapsible control boxes corresponding to the tracks of an audio
10 processing module may be collapsed into a single control box; and
11 generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the
12 second display portion including a central control mechanism for
13 simultaneously controlling all of the tracks.--

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